Hill Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission Meeting

September 7, 2017

DUCKS UNLIMITED

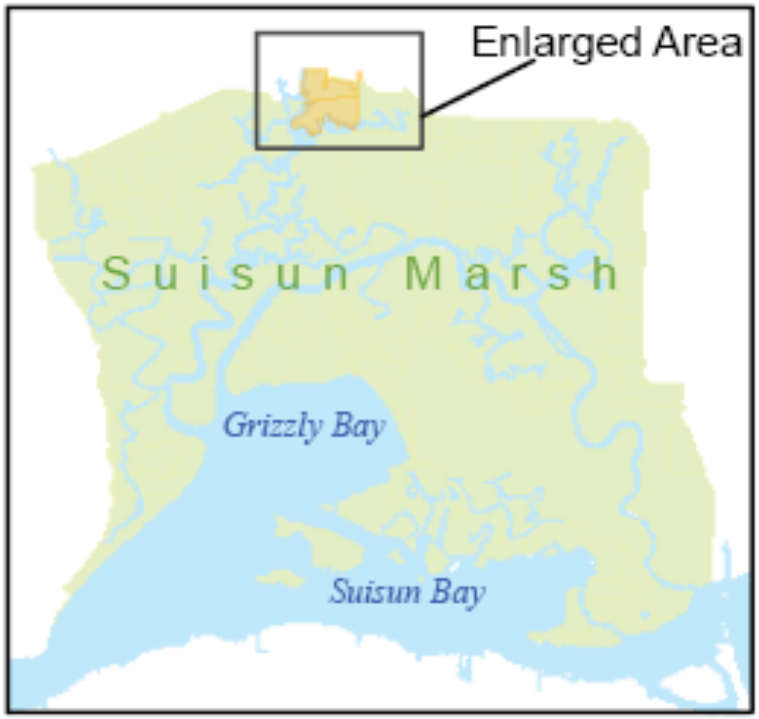
SOLANO COUNTY

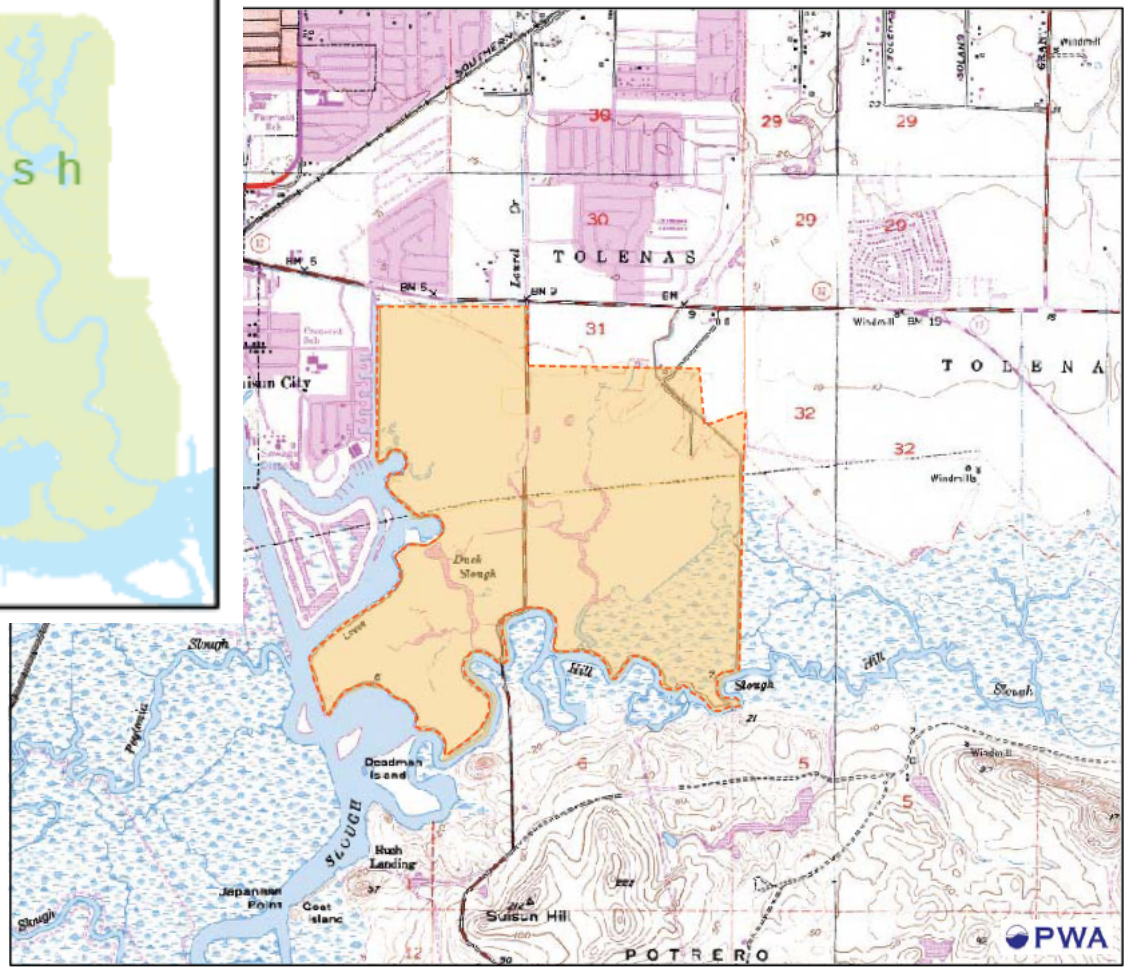
CALIFORNIA FISH & WILDLIFE

Purposes of Project

- Restore natural hydrologic processes
- Recover listed plants and animals
- Increase Suisun Marsh's ability to adapt to sea level rise
- Provide public access adjacent to city
- Enhance managed wetland habitat
- Restore connectivity between habitats
- Provide listed fish habitat to offset drought impacts

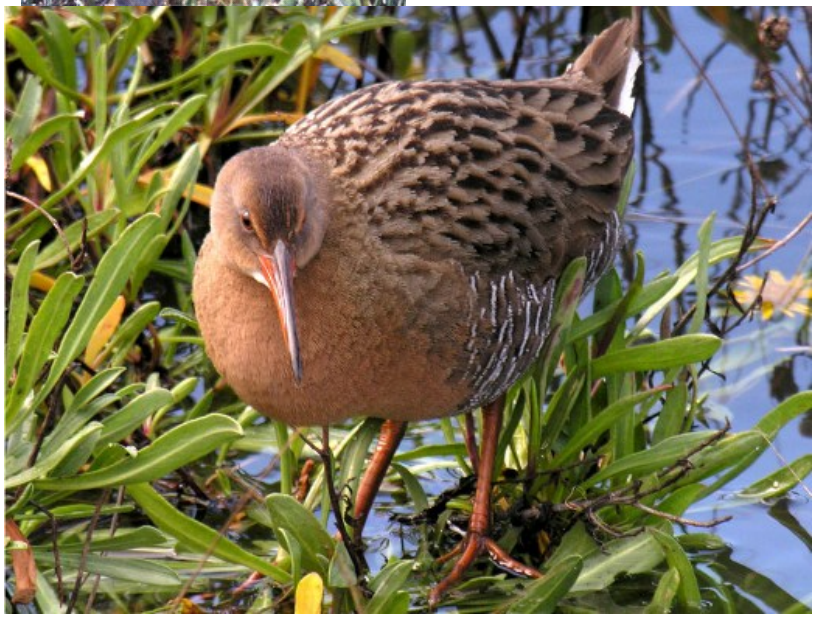
Project Location



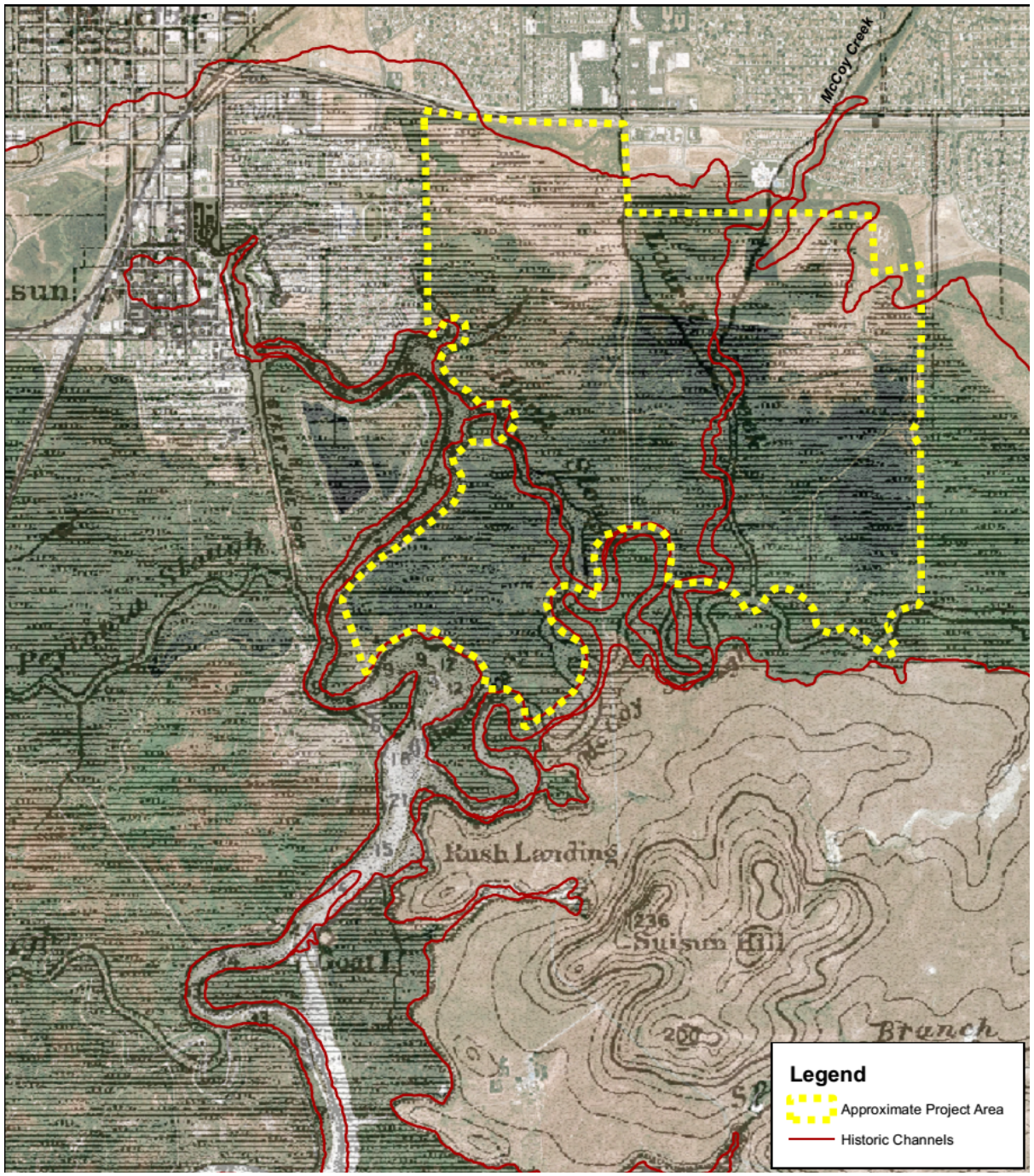


Project Site is Surrounded by Existing Tidal Marsh

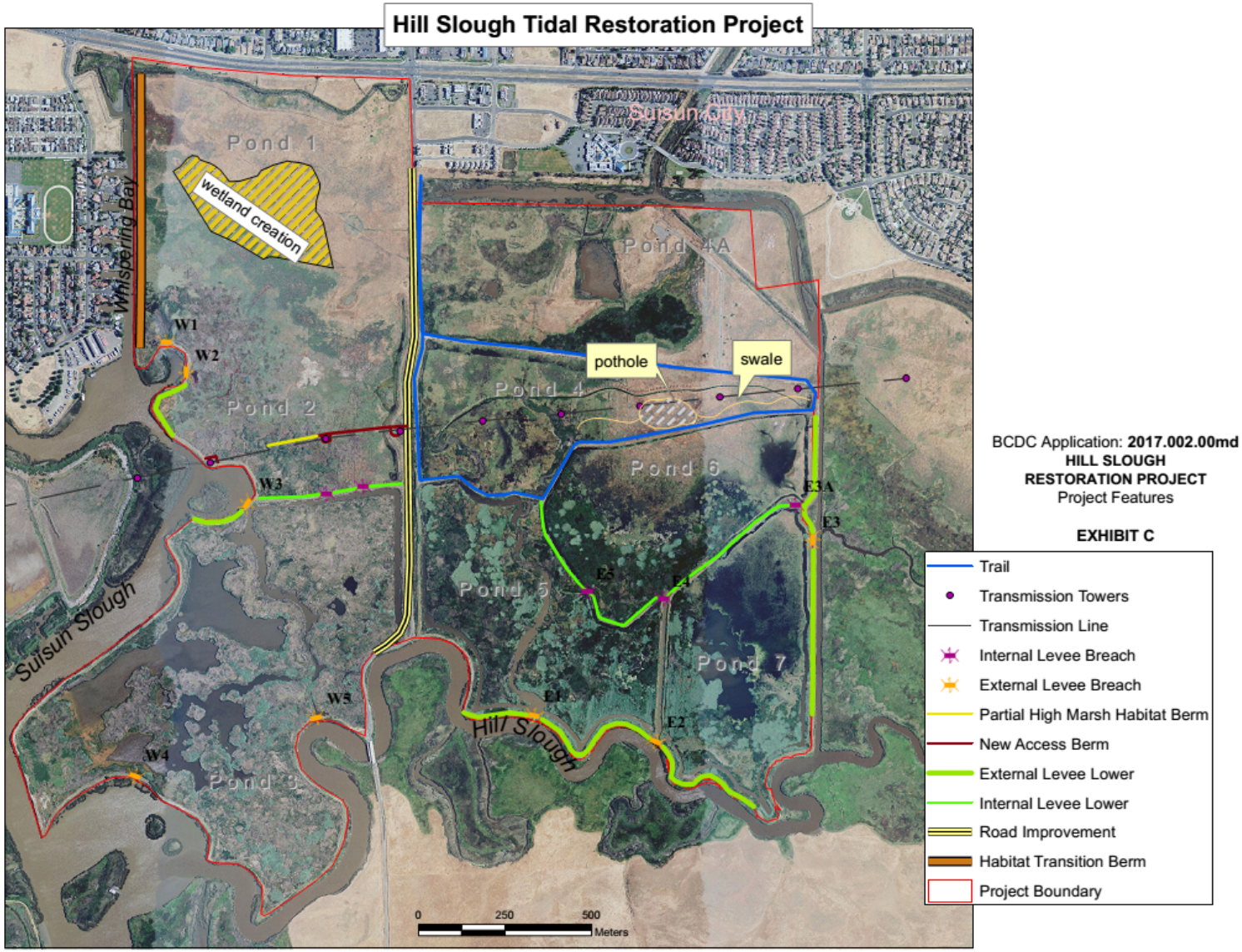
Endangered Species at Hill Slough Wildlife Area and Surrounding Tidal Marsh



Project Site 100 Years Ago

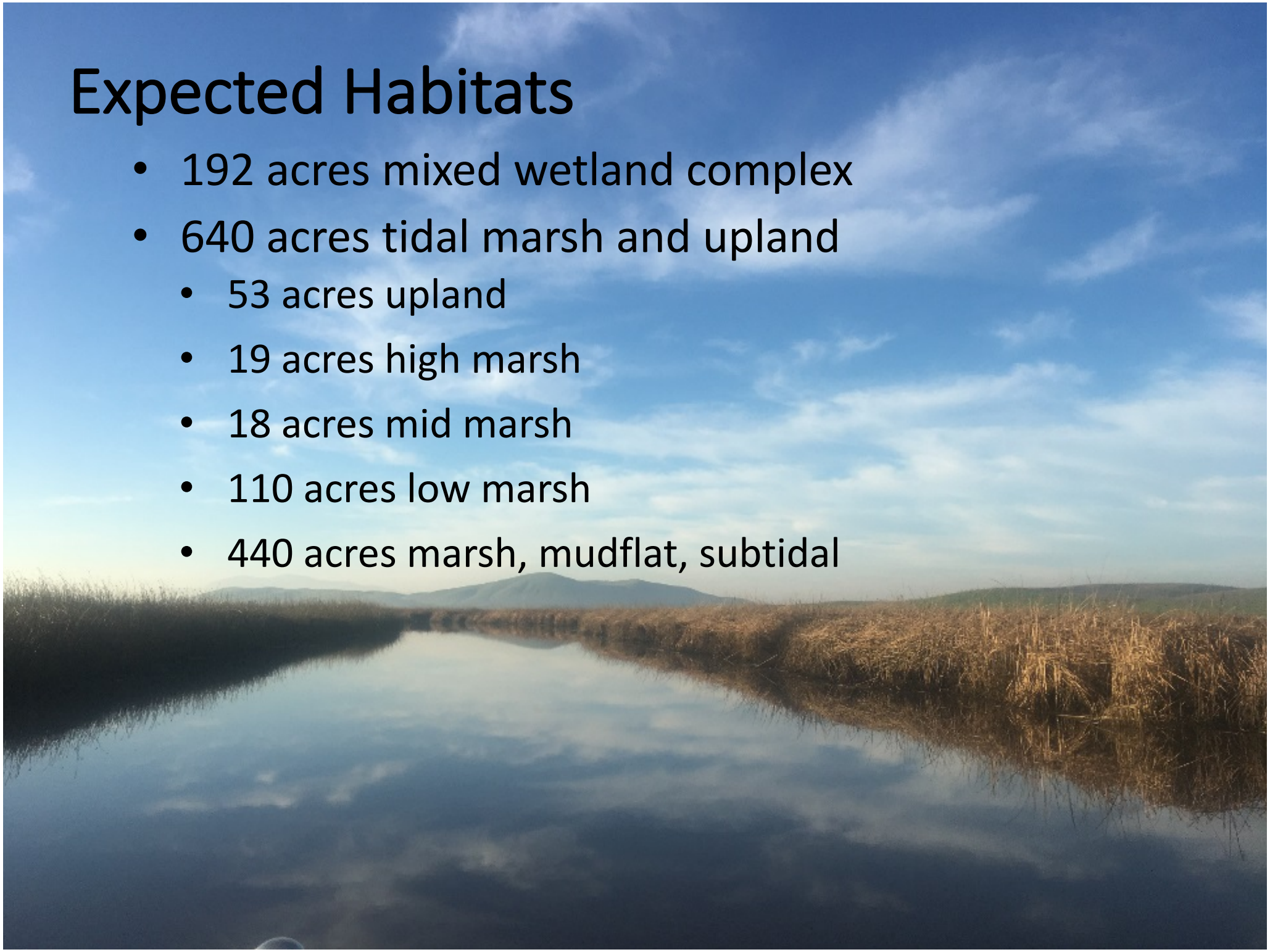


Project Design



Expected Habitats

- 192 acres mixed wetland complex
- 640 acres tidal marsh and upland
  - 53 acres upland
  - 19 acres high marsh
  - 18 acres mid marsh
  - 110 acres low marsh
  - 440 acres marsh, mudflat, subtidal



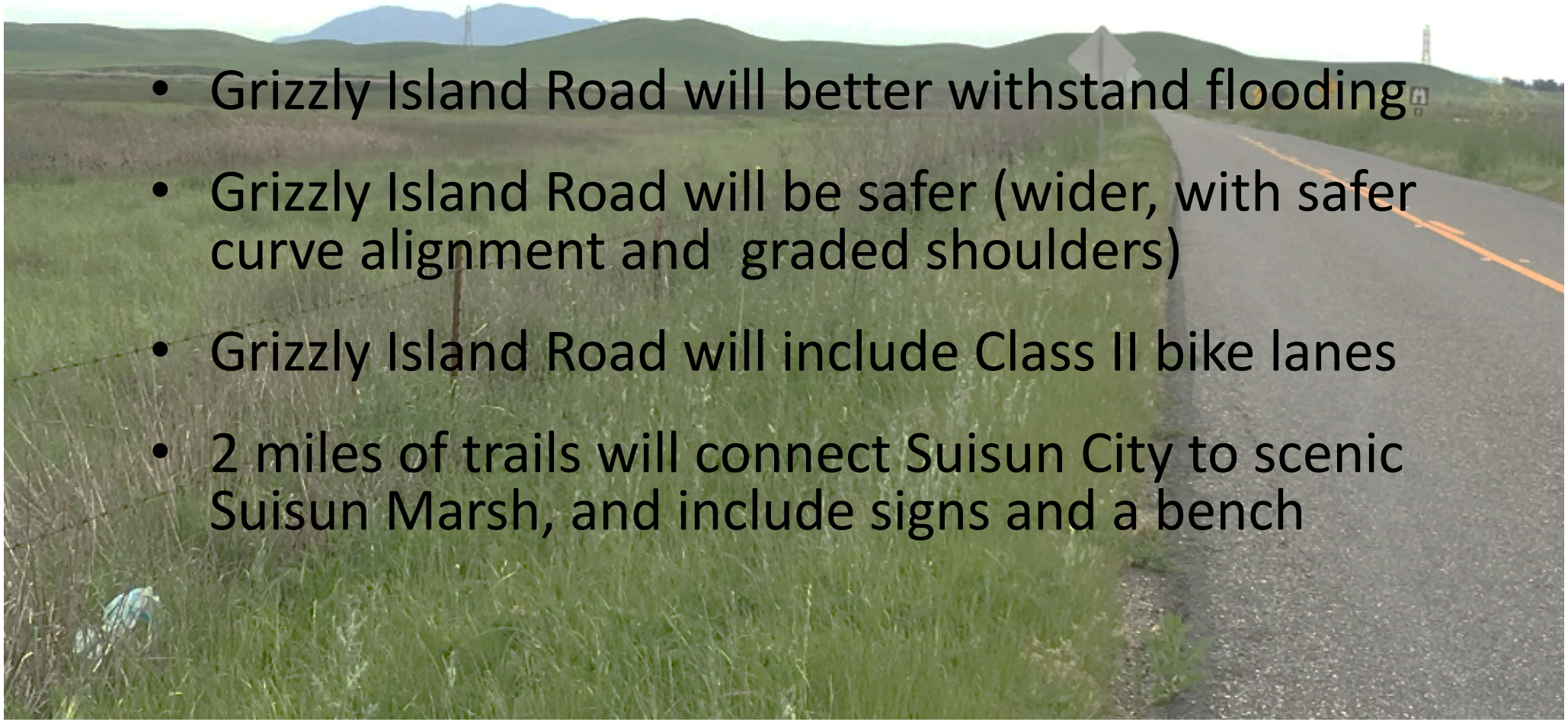
Major Project Elements

- Raise the elevation of Grizzly Island Road and add Class II bicycle lanes
- Create a berm to protect PG&E facilities
- Construct two miles of trail
- Lower some levees and raise others
- Breach levees along Hill and Suisun Sloughs, and McCoy Creek
- Add, remove, abandon culverts

Raise Grizzly Island Road

- Now subject to flooding
- Level is now as low as 5 feet in some places
- Road will be raised to 10.1 feet along an almost 1 mile stretch
- Road will be constructed in two stages
- At least one lane of road will remain open at all times

New/Improved Public Access



- Grizzly Island Road will better withstand flooding
- Grizzly Island Road will be safer (wider, with safer curve alignment and graded shoulders)
- Grizzly Island Road will include Class II bike lanes
- 2 miles of trails will connect Suisun City to scenic Suisun Marsh, and include signs and a bench

Construction Schedule

2017-2018: Grizzly Island Road: 5 months

2018: Surcharge: 6 months

As fill settles, construct PG&E berm, interior levees, habitat improvements outside water.

2018-2019: Construct road, pave, and complete: 3 months

2019: Levee breaches and in water improvements must occur between September 1 - November 30.

Sea Level Rise

- Project site is on northern margin of marsh, specifically identified as more resilient to SLR
  - High suspended sediment concentration
  - High biomass accumulation
- Linear length of levees will be greatly reduced
- Road raised by up to 5 feet, with footprint allowing future height increase
- Trails designed to withstand overtopping


Thank you!